

GREETINGS FROM COOLIDGE SCHOOL

May 2, 2016

<http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge>



Dear Families,

If you're susceptible to mainstream media, you've probably been tempted to think of teaching as a job with appealing benefits like short(er) work days and longer vacations. On the other hand, if you have an educator in the family you likely know better.

One of the best ways I can think of to build empathy for our tireless teachers is to ask about what it takes to throw a child's birthday party. Who among us faced that kind of event without considerable thought and planning? How well did our plans engage the guests? Which of us would willingly choose to throw more than one party a year? Our teachers regularly host whole group learning activities without cake or goody bags and manage to keep each student growing in multiple learning domains. This week is a good time to acknowledge them: tomorrow is National Teacher Day.

Our PTO plans an annual luncheon event to show their appreciation for our teaching staff, and this year the fun happens on May 25th. Won't you please take some time between now and then to encourage your child to write about how a Coolidge teacher has made a difference? There is a box in the Office for notes we hope to display on the big day. Reading the notes is one of the highlights of the luncheon.

Thanks for continuing to support all our educators, paraprofessionals and specialists- all teachers!

Sincerely,

Amy

Amy Clouter

Principal

P.S. And speaking of making a difference, a special thanks goes out to...

- **Cub Scouts from Pack 146**

for helping to make our school grounds look so nice on Town Day. Your efforts inspired our Kindergarteners to do some vigorous weeding. Stay tuned for more gardening projects

Important Upcoming Dates:

TUESDAY, MAY 3rd IS AN EARLY RELEASE DAY – Students dismissed at 12:15.

May 2, 4, 5	PARCC testing Grade 4, English Language Arts
May 9-12	PARCC testing Grade 3, Math
May 16-19	PARCC testing Grade 4, Math
May 13	School Store
May 17	Meal Magic begins in Coolidge cafeteria – see article below
May 25	Last PTO Mtg 7 pm
May 27	School Store
June 1	Spring Concert 7 pm
June 2	4 th Grade Field Trip to Lowell
June 6	Medal Ceremony – Kindergarten: 9:30
June 7	Medal Ceremony – Grade 1: 9:30
June 10	Field Day (rain date June 17)
June 13	Medal Ceremony – Grade 2: 9:30
June 15	Medal Ceremony – Grade 3
June 17	Last Day for Kindergartners
June 20	4 th Grade Completion Ceremony: 9:30
June 21	Last day of school (early release day)

Coolidge Field Day: Friday, June 10 (rain date Friday, June 17.)

Fourth Grade Completion Ceremony Monday, June 20th.



Mrs. McInerny's & Mrs. Rubin's Kindergarten classes help weed the school flower beds and make Coolidge look great!

Watch your Child's Monday Folder for info on Meal Magic at Coolidge Cafeteria

The Food Service will be implementing a new, computerized point-of-sale system in the Coolidge Street School Cafeteria- **Tuesday, May 17, 2016.** **Today, Monday May 2,** your child will bring home information sheets describing the Meal Magic program along with a card with their name, grade and their six-digit Lasid #.

From the Nurse's Office: Drink Water!

I like to encourage all our students to drink water throughout the day. Water is one of the body's most essential nutrients. Water impacts every part of our body. It helps keep our body temperature regulated, lubricates our joints and maintains body tissues including our eyes, mouth and nose. The amount of water a child needs depends on many factors such as age, weight, air temperature, activity level and overall health. Adequate water

intake has a direct impact on our gastrointestinal tract and can greatly improve things for children prone to constipation. Please help our children make drinking water a regular part of their day.

Thank you,

Katie Zimmermann RN, BSN, NCSN

<mailto:kzimmermann@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us>

508-841-8887 / fax 508-841-8883

Coolidge School Videos

We hope you have enjoyed viewing the "animated" drawings on Facebook about the Greenland shark, walrus and narwhal created by Mrs. McInerny's Kindergarten Class. If you haven't seen them, check them out on our Facebook page here:

<https://www.facebook.com/CoolidgeElementarySchool/videos>

Here is an explanation of the project by Mrs. McInerny:

Over the past few months Kindergarten students have been learning about the different elements of non-fiction books including: pictures, captions, labels and maps. After learning about the elements the students created their very own non-fiction books about Arctic animals. Students were required to research an animal and write and draw pictures to tell real facts about their animal. Check out these chatterpix to hear what students wrote about in their non-fiction books.

Here is additional info from Mrs. Conley, who took the photos of the students' drawings:



A few of the students became involved in the second grade work done by Ms. Hurley's class on oceans around the world (displayed on the school lobby bulletin board.) The kindergartners then used the app Chatterpix to take pictures of the Arctic animals and record facts about each animal. We hope you enjoy listening to our facts from the research on Arctic animals as well as looking at our scientific drawings. If you are visiting Coolidge, please check out the bulletin board in the front hallway for more scannable codes and information.

Coolidge After School Classes (ASAP) Starting 5/11

We have five new offerings for the Coolidge After School Activities Program! Classes include Calligraphy, Recess Games, Fitness Club, Wild Animal Club and Clay club.

The attached flyer gives more information about each class and

provides the link for on-line registration. The cost is only \$30 for a 5-week session, and registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis. Classes start Wednesday May 11th so sign up today!



Here is the flyer:

http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/coolidge/documents/May_2016_CoolidgeclassesdescriptionsMay2016.pdf

SCHOOL BUS TRANSPORTATION

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are pleased to announce the official opening of the 2016-2017 bus registration process. We have three messages to highlight here:

1. **ALL students who wish to ride a bus to a school in our district or Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School, St. John's High School, St. Mary's School, Montessori School, Al Hamra Academy must be registered in our 2016-2017 Bus Registration System.**



The deadline for registration and payment [if required] is June 30, 2016 at 4:30pm. All registrations made or postmarked after this deadline will be subject to a \$50 late fee per student [\$150 family cap for late fees].

2. We are very pleased to offer and encourage use of our new online payment center. **The online payment center can only be accessed via the PowerSchool Parent Portal after completion of the bus registration process.** You will receive a payment receipt immediately upon completion of a payment transaction using the online system. [If you choose to mail in the check payment with your registration form, you will not receive a payment receipt from the School Dept.. Your cleared/processed check from your bank will serve as proof of payment.]

There is no "processing charge/convenience fee" for online payment of the bus fee and both credit cards and debit cards are accepted.

1. All of the regulations and rules pertaining to bus ridership eligibility and the requirement to pay a fee are posted on our website under the Transportation link. Please read them carefully and access the FAQ if you have questions.

The bus fee for the 2016-2017 school year is \$275/student with a \$825 family cap.

SPS families can register now by clicking on the link here: <http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/transportation/>

For illustrated instructions for registration and the new online payment click here: <http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/transportation/documents/Online.Payment.for.B.using.Directions.pdf>

Families with private and vocational students can access our new online registration here: <http://schools.shrewsburyma.gov/transportation/Private-and-Vocational-School-Transportation-Registration.cfm>

PTO NEWSFLASH

Email: ptocoolidge@shrewsbury.k12.ma.us

Blog: <http://coolidgepto.wordpress.com/> The PTO has created a blog as an additional resource for information and notices. Come check it out!

Facebook Group: "Calvin Coolidge PTO"

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/coolidgepto/> All parents, guardians, and staff are welcome to join our group on Facebook. It's a great place to chat with the community or ask a question.

Direct Donation: <https://npo.justgive.org/coolidgepto> There are many ways to help support the PTO, a direct donation is just one.

1. Teacher Appreciation Lunch- May 25th
2. Field Day and Walk-A-Thon Volunteers Needed
3. Spirit Gear
4. Boxtops

1. The Coolidge School is sponsoring a Teacher Appreciation Lunch for the teachers/staff on May 25th. Teachers are our everyday Super Heroes and we need to make sure they know it! In order to make this event possible we are looking for your help. We are looking for volunteers to help with set-up, serving and take-down the day of the event, as well as food and other donations to make the lunch extra special for our everyday super heroes. Please consider making a donation! Thank you! If you have any questions, please let me know.

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/20F0F48AAAA2CAAFF2-teachers

2.Field Day and Walk-A-Thon Volunteers Needed

June 10th (Rain-date **Friday, June 17th**)

On field Day all Coolidge students enjoy a day with their class outside. They rotate through fun-filled stations throughout the morning with a break in between for snack. After the stations are finished, they eat lunch outside.

We need as many parents as possible to help make this day a success.

Volunteers are needed to help with set-up at 7:30am, to run field day activities from 8:30-12:30 and to help with the Walk-A-Thon from 12:00-3:00.

If you are available to help out on this fun filled day please MAKE SURE YOU HAVE A CURRENT CORI CHECK ON FILE and email Melissa Pratt at mpratt@townisp.com.

3. Coolidge Spirit Gear- Order your Coolidge Spirit Gear online until May 13. See the new cardinal selections at

<http://www.spiritgeardirect.com/GearDrive/Store.aspx?guid=47805eac-4235-4b60-b6da-0a87371a5ea7>

Items will be delivered to Coolidge the beginning of June. If you have any questions direct them to Jane Bell at janebell72@hotmail.com.

4. We will be collecting **Boxtops** through the end of the school year, so please keep clipping. Your trash is our treasure. Thank you!

To include news about your committee, fundraiser or PTO event in future newsflashes, please e-mail your submissions to Kristie Biando at kbiando74@gmail.com